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WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU SEEKS NOMINATION FOR TRIBAL BOARD MEMBER POSITION ON THE UNIVERSAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATIVE COMPANY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CC Docket Nos. 96-45, 97-21

Nominations Due By: November 20, 2023

Pursuant to section 54.703(c) of the Federal Communications Commission's rules, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) seeks a nomination for the new Board member position¹ on the Board of Directors of the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) to represent Tribal communities for a three-year term.² The Commission recently adopted rules to add a Tribal representative to the USAC Board of Directors, recognizing that the Board would benefit from having a Tribal perspective that could speak to the unique political and geographical identity of Tribal communities. These rules will be effective September 29, 2023.³

Under the revised rule establishing the new director position, the group that is represented by the director shall nominate by consensus a new director.⁴ We encourage nomination of a Board member with substantive areas of expertise relevant to running a large and complex organization with such skills as accounting, finance, auditing, procurement, data management and information technology will improve the management, administration and oversight of USAC. Nominations must include the name of the nominee, along with relevant professional and biographical information about the nominee.⁵ If members of Tribal groups fail to reach consensus on a candidate to serve on the Board, or fail to submit a nomination for the particular Board member seat, the Chair of the Federal Communications Commission will select an individual to serve on the Board as outlined in section 54.703(c)(1) of the Commission's rules.⁶

Pursuant to section 54.703(c)(2) of the Commission's rules, each nomination must be captioned: "In the Matter of: Nomination for Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors,

¹ See Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism, et al., CC Docket No. 02-6, et al., Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FCC 23-56, 2023 WL 4730084, at *14, para. 34 (rel. July 21, 2023) (2023 E-Rate Tribal Report and Order).

² 47 CFR § 54.703(c).

³ See Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism, Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, and Changes to the Board of Directors of the National Exchange Carrier Association., Final Rule, 88 Fed. Reg. 55401 (Aug. 15, 2023) (to be codified at 47 CFR §54.703(b)(13)).

⁴ 47 CFR § 54.703(c)(1); 2023 E-Rate Tribal Report and Order, at para. 35.

⁵ 47 CFR § 54.703(c)(1).

⁶ 47 CFR § 54.703(c)(1).

CC Docket Nos. 97-21 and 96-45." Nominations may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS), or by filing paper copies.

- Electronic Filers: Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/filings.
- Paper Filers: Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and one copy of each filing. If more than one docket or rulemaking number appears in the caption of this proceeding, filers must submit two additional copies for each additional docket or rulemaking number.
 - Filings can be sent by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S.
 Postal Service mail. All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.
 - Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9050 Junction Drive, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701. U.S. Postal Service first-class, Express, and Priority mail must be addressed to 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20554
 - Effective March 19, 2020, and until further notice, the Commission no longer accepts any hand or messenger delivered filings. This is a temporary measure taken to help protect the health and safety of individuals, and to mitigate the transmission of COVID-19.8

People with Disabilities: To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov, or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530.

In addition to the electronic or paper filing, copies of each nomination should be submitted to Charles Tyler, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, via email Charles.Tyler@fcc.gov. Each nomination should specify the position on the Board of Directors for which such nomination is submitted and should be accompanied by the nominee's professional and biographical information, such as a résumé or professional biography. All nominations must be filed with the Office of the Secretary by November 20, 2023.

For further information, please contact Kate Dumouchel (kate.dumouchel@fcc.gov) of the Wireline Competition Bureau, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, (202) 418-1839.

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⁷ 47 CFR § 54.703(c)(2).

⁸ See FCC Announces Closure of FCC Headquarters Open Window and Change in Hand-Delivery Policy, Public Notice, 35 FCC Rcd 2788 (Mar. 19, 2020).